

IV. *Descriptions of some new species of Lepidoptera from Algeria.* By GEORGE T. BAKER, F.L.S.

[Read December 7th, 1887.]

EARLY in the present year I received from my correspondent, Herr Pech, of Budapest, another interesting collection of Lepidoptera, which he had taken in the neighbourhood of Sebdo, prov. Oran, Algeria. He remained there about four months—from March to July—and captured, among other good insects, a few new species, which I am now describing:—

Ino Orana, n. s.

Alis anticis, capite, thorace, abdomineque cæruleis. Alis posticis supra infraque nigrescentibus, infra ad basim cæruleo tinctis. Antennis cæruleis non elongatis, breviter pectinatis, dentibus fuscis; femoribus cæruleis, tibiis tarsisque fuscis.

The anterior wings are of a lustrous bluish bronze, with brownish fringes. The posterior wings are sooty grey, with brownish fringes. The antennæ are short, with short pectinations right up to the tip, which is abruptly and bluntly terminated; they are moderately stout, bluish in colour, with brown pectinations. The head, thorax, and abdomen are of the same hue as the anterior wings, but slightly greener. The femora are blue, and the tibiæ and tarsi brown. Length, 18 to 19 mm.

I have four males, all from Sebdo. Its nearest ally is apparently *Dolosa*, Stgr. (*vide* Stett. Ent. Zeit. Jahr., 48, p. 49), but, not having a specimen of this *Ino* before me, I am unable to give the specific differences. From the Amoor species *Tristis*, Brem., my insect can be easily recognised by its smaller size and blue lustre, by its shorter antennæ, by the pectinations being decidedly shorter, and by the tip being bluntly terminated.

From *Cirtana*, Luc., its nearest Algerian ally, it may at once be separated by its blue lustre and rather larger size (*Orana* being a robust little species with wider

wings); also by the antennæ being bluntly terminated, with the pectinations decidedly shorter.

Zygæna Oberthüri, n. s.

Corpus nigrum, thorax niger, collum albidum. Caput antennæque violaceo-nigræ. Alæ anticæ nigrescentes, maculis quatuor anterioribus confluentibus minio-rubris, margine flavo-albido; macula quinta posteriore reniformi rubra, margine flavo-albido, ciliis cinereo-fuscis. Alæ posticæ minio-rubræ margine nigro; ciliis fuscis. Femora nigra, tibiæ tarsique, cinereo-fusci.

The anterior wings are of a blackish colour, with a faint bronze lustre. All the spots, except the posterior one, are confluent and of a vermilion hue, narrowly edged posteriorly and interiorly with cream-colour; in one specimen this cream border encircles the far red spot by the costa; the posterior vermilion spot, also encircled with cream, is kidney-shaped, placed close to the hind margin, with its long axis parallel thereto; the dark ground colour extends along the inner margin narrowly in the female, but wider in the male. The costa of male is edged by a narrow black line, whereas that of the female is edged by an extremely fine line of a creamish hue. The fringes are of a brownish cream-colour. The hind wings are vermilion, bordered with black rather broadly at the apex, but narrower towards the anal angle. Fringes brownish. The head and abdomen are bluish black; the thorax is also bluish black, with a whitish collar in both sexes. The femora are black, but the tibiæ and tarsi are greyish. Length, 23 to 24 mm.

Two specimens of this very pretty *Zygæna* were taken at Sebdoou, both of which are in my collection. At present the species will stand in a somewhat isolated position, as, owing to the confluence of the spots, at least three-quarters of the fore wings are of a vermilion-colour, this feature separating it from any Palearctic *Zygæna*.

I dedicate this fine insect to Mons. C. Oberthür, who has added so much to our knowledge of the Algerian fauna.

Acidalia Algeriensis, n. s.

Alæ anticæ pallide ochreo-cinereæ, puncto centrali nigro, linea juxta basim fusca, linea media indistincta, lineis binis posterioribus undulatis cinereo-fuscis, margine posteriore late obscuriore punctis nigrescentibus; ciliis cinereis. Alæ posticæ pallide ochreo-cinereæ, linea media, puncto nigro centrali ad marginem interiorem distinctissima, lineis binis posterioribus distinctis margine

posteriore late griseo-fusca, sed fimbria angusta pallida punctis nigrescentibus; ciliis cinereis.

The anterior wings are of a greyish buff; the first transverse line near the base fairly distinct and of a greyish brown colour; the second transverse line immediately behind the dark central spot is almost obliterated. The two posterior transverse lines, placed close together, are moderately distinct, and of a greyish brown hue. The hind margin is bordered rather broadly with greyish brown, and is finely and darkly dotted. The posterior wings are of the same colour as the anterior wings; the middle transverse line is very distinct from the dark central spot to the inner margin, but is scarcely perceptible from the spot to the upper margin; the two posterior wavy transverse lines form a continuation of the similar markings in the fore wings. The posterior margin is broadly bordered with greyish brown, but is edged at the extreme border very narrowly with paler grey; this posterior margin is also darkly and finely dotted. Fringes same hue as the wings. Body and thorax slightly darker than the wings. Length, 16 mm.

One male specimen of this obscure little *Acidalia* was taken at Seb dou, and is in my collection.

Pleurota Staintoniella, n. s.

Alæ anticæ cinereo-fuscæ, vittis duabus (costali et centrali) argenteo-albidis, apice subacuminato ♂, acuminato ♀. Alæ posticæ fusco-cinereæ, ciliis pallidioribus. Palpi capite et thorace longiores, cinereo-albidi irrorati punctis parvis cinereo-fuscis.

♂. Anterior wings greyish brown, occasionally inclining to tawny, with the costal and central stripes white, slightly silvery, the former extending nearly to the apex, the latter up to the hind margin just below the apex; both stripes are rather narrow, the central one attenuating as it approaches the posterior margin. The fringes are of a greyer hue than the wings, which latter are very slightly acuminate. The hind wings are dark sooty grey, with slightly paler fringes. Head, palpi, and thorax grey; the palpi are thickly irrorated with dark fuscous, and are rather longer than the head and thorax, the end joint being about the length of the head. Length, 22 to 24 mm.

♀. Anterior wings grey or ochreous grey, thickly irrorated with darker scales, with the costal and central stripe more silvery and broader, the latter extending right through the fringes, which are whitish, and the apex is acuminate. The hind wings are paler,

with greyish fringes. Head and palpi whitish, dusted beneath with blackish minute irrorations. Length, $24\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

This *Pleurota* will follow *Macrosella*, from which it differs by its smaller size and its darker and greyer hue. It is also a rougher-looking insect, having the appearance of being thickly covered with coarse greyish scales.

Six males and two females were taken at Sebdoou, all of which are in my collection; they differ slightly *inter se*, some specimens being paler than others. I have (with his kind permission) dedicated this *Pleurota* to Mr. Stainton, who is so well known in connection with Micro-Lepidoptera.

Pleurota Mauretunica, n. s.

Alæ anticæ ochraceo-fuscæ, margine interiore pallidior, vittis duabus (costali et centrali) argenteo-albidis. Alæ posticæ cineræ. Palpi, capite et thorace longiores.

The anterior wings are of a warm brown colour, with a slight chestnut tinge. The costal stripe, extending almost to the apex, is silvery white; the central stripe, also silvery white, is of moderate width, and extends right up to the hind margin; it is of uniform width for about two-thirds of its length, when it narrows suddenly for the remaining third, but does not produce a tooth. Fringes greyish white. The posterior wings are dusky grey, with paler fringes. Head, palpi, and thorax whitish, dusted with grey. The palpi are thickly dusted beneath with dark grey, and are slightly longer than the head and thorax. Length, ♂ 24, ♀ 22 mm.

One pair were taken at Sebdoou, which are in my collection. The species should be placed between *Schlageriella* and *Algeriella*; from the former it may be recognised by its larger size, its broader and more silvery costal and central stripes, and by its richer and glossier colour. From *Algeriella* it may be distinguished by its darker colour, by its central stripe being narrower, less silvery, and not toothed on the fold; and in the female the costa of the anterior wings is decidedly straighter and the apex less acuminate than in that species.

Pleurota Oranella, n. s.

Alæ anticæ ochraceo-cineræ vittis duabus costali et centrali margaritaceis, centrali in medio furcata ramo superiore recto prope ad apicem inferiore ad angulum analem currente, ciliis margaritaceis. Alæ posticæ subhyalinæ cineræ; ciliis coloris ejusdem.

The posterior wings are of a greyish ochre, with the pearly white costal stripe of moderate and uniform width extending right up to the apex, where it joins the long white fringes, and gives the wing the appearance of being bordered with white along the costa and posterior margin. The central stripe, also pearly white, extends nearly up to the hind margin; this stripe is widest about the centre, where it emits a branch along the fold, forming a fork right up to the inner angle; the upper branch widens somewhat beyond the division, and then tapers slightly to its extremity. The inner margin is pearly white at the base. The apex is not acuminate in either sex. The hind wings are glossy greyish white, of a semitransparent hue, with paler fringes. The palpi are shorter than the head and thorax, and are recurved over the face in a manner very unlike the erect oblique position usual to the genus. Length, ♂ 22 to 24, ♀ 26 mm.

Ten males and one female were captured at Sebdou, all of which are in my collection. The species is very nearly allied to *Honorella*, but may readily be separated from that species by its forked stripe being broader, longer, and very much less silvery; its anterior wings are darker and greyer, whilst the hind wings are paler than in *Honorella*. The palpi are also shorter than in that species,

From *Galaticella* it may at once be distinguished by the fold-streak, which forms little more than a tooth in that insect; whereas in mine it makes a long fork right up to the inner angle. The colour is decidedly paler and greyer than in *Galaticella*, and this latter insect has no white margin at the base of the inner edge of the anterior wings.

Thalpocares Respensa, var. *Bythinica*.

This is a very beautiful variety of *Respensa*, in which nearly all the upper surface of the anterior wings is suffused, more or less intensely, with rosy mauve, all the usual brown markings being almost obliterated and replaced by a shade of the rosy colour; the triangular apical patch is pinkish brown instead of the usual darker hue. The posterior wings are almost unicolorous, but rather paler towards the base; there is, however, the usual lighter transverse line near the posterior margin. The variety is rather larger than the parent species.

Two specimens were taken at Brussa, in Asia Minor, one of which is in my collection.